



Whitby Curling Club Member Newsletter

Rock Talk

Your Board of Directors are:

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- Vice President: Tracey Macaulay
- Member at Large: Vacant
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- Secretary: Sheryl Tavoularis
- Bar & Kitchen: Malcolm Macaulay
- Property & Ice: Paul Slean
- Advertising & Marketing: Janice Brooks
- OCA Liz Winters
- Curling Development: Jeff Whelan
- Membership: Bryce Jordan
- Fundraising: Ian Cavanagh

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President's Message

Welcome to the 2013-2014 Curling Season at the Whitby Curling Club!

On behalf of the Board of Directors, League Reps, Casey, Jamie, Stephanie and all of the staff here at the Whitby Curling Club, I would like to extend a warm Welcome Back to our returning members and a heartfelt Hello and Welcome to all of our new members!

Now for those returning members I can guess what you're thinking....not him again! Yes, due to some extenuating circumstances I've volunteered to be President for another year (my condolences to Sarah). As explained at the Annual General Meeting, the circumstances were such that neither last year's First Vice President nor the Second Vice President was able to return to the Board and continue the tradition of succession. Fortunately, the Board had been looking at our composition and how we might better manage the affairs of our Club, improve support to the staff and deliver better service to the membership.

The timing was therefore right to amend the composition of the Board and at the same time allow for persons on the Executive Committee to continue in their respective roles, rather than require a change after just one year. This has been the situation for every other position on the Board, where directors are elected for two year terms and traditionally stay in their respective roles, be it membership, marketing, OCA rep, etc., allowing them to build on their experience from the previous year. This made sense for the Executive as well. So pending some kind of political revolt from the Board or the membership, I'm back for another year.

In terms of the rest of the Board composition, we are very fortunate to have 9 returning members from last year's Board. In addition, I'm pleased to say that former part-time Club manager Ian Cavanagh stepped up to the challenge of the new position of Director of Fundraising. I'm equally delighted to welcome back Tracey Macaulay to the Board in the role of Vice President. Her years of service on the Board and Executive will be invaluable.

Now while we maintained experience and gained exceptional quality, it was disappointing that, notwithstanding the 400 plus eligible members here at our Club, we could not get one more member to join us on the Board. We are therefore running with a compliment of 11, as opposed to the traditional 12 member Board. While this will have a negligible impact on the membership and the day-to-day activities of our Club, it will mean that others will

have to step up to fill the void. So, for the last time (I promise...maybe), if anyone is interested in helping out on the Board this season please do not hesitate to give me a call.

We've also had some turnover amongst our League Representatives. So while most of you have already met your reps, it's worthwhile acknowledging the many members who have stepped up to organize and run the numerous leagues in which you all participate. They include:

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Peter Watson | Senior Men's |
| Margaret Chew | Day Ladies |
| Belinda Solly | Business Ladies |
| Lori Way | Sunday Evening Ladies |
| Francois Le Clerc | Mixed Curling |
| Winston Dixon | Friday 4:30 Mixed |
| Steve Crabbe | Men's Rated |
| Paul Slean | Men's Competitive |
| Andrew Gray | Novice |
| Sarah Gray | Youth Curling |

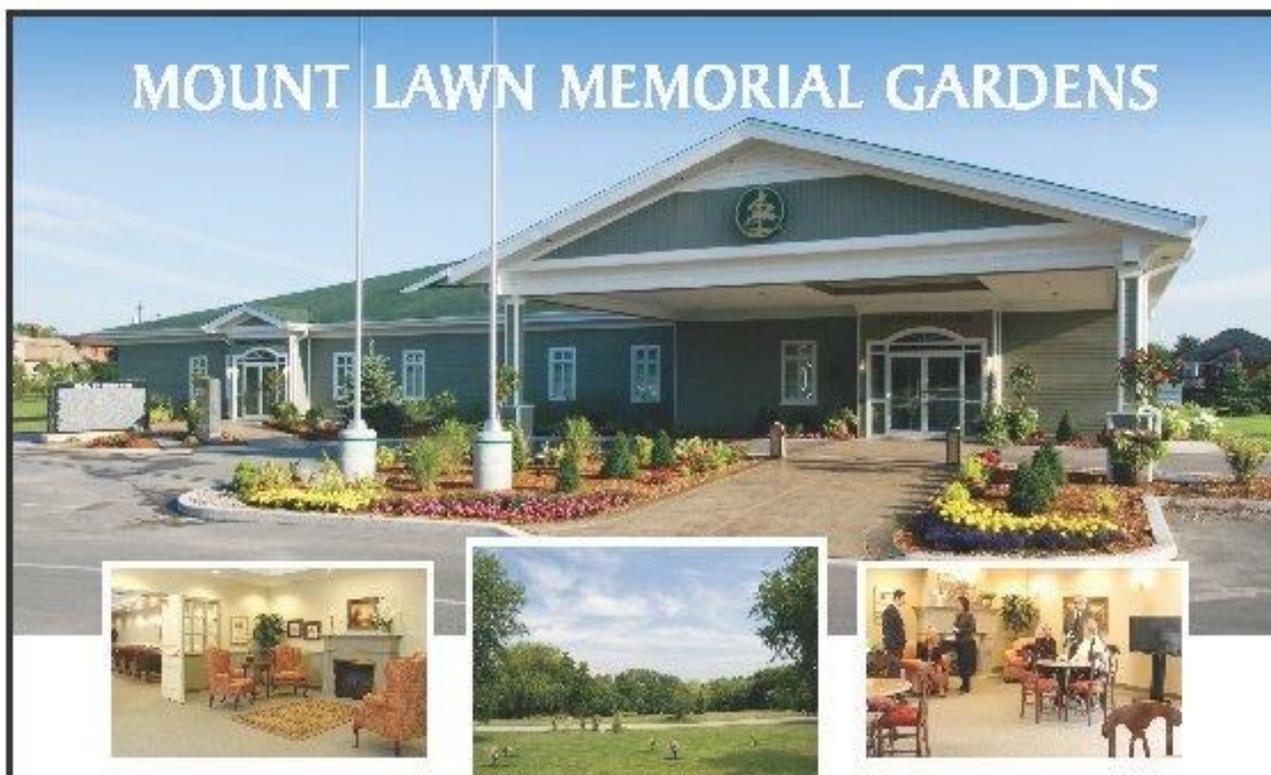
Many of the Board members and League Reps have included updates in this edition of Rock Talk, so I don't want to steal their thunder. However, I do want to say thanks for stepping up and getting the season off to such a wonderful start.

Going forward this year the Board will be trying to implement a plan that ensures that the quality of curling that we enjoyed for the past few years is maintained for this year and for years to come. Thanks to a little luck and a lot of band aids from Paul Slean and company, we believe that our finances are in decent shape. We continue to work on a structured capital upgrade plan, something that we were unable to complete last year. In addition we know that our website needs a serious upgrade (and thanks to all who responded to the survey).

As always, suggestions from the membership about how we could make your curling experience here at Whitby a more enjoyable one are always welcome. We have set up an email (wcc-bod@hotmail.ca) and would invite you to make suggestions or comments during the season. This is also an Olympic year and we would welcome your ideas about how to enhance that experience here at our Club.

Until then enjoy the season and "Good Curling"!

Andrew Gray



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Senior Men's Curling

The Senior Men's first curling event started with the 26th annual golf tournament held at Whispering Ridge on Wednesday, September 4th 2013. The weather was perfect and 72 golfers played a full team scramble best ball. All players received a prize through a double random draw system by team and player. A modified 50-50 cash raffle draw was held and three cash prizes were awarded. A hot lunch was served to end a most successful day.

So far, 108 returning and new Senior Men welcomed this season's curling. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday morning 10 am curling uses our popular colour code tag system. This guarantees all our members two curling days per week.

The first Special Event for this season will be a "fill the house" tournament on Thursday, November 7th. This event includes different curling rules, a hot lunch upstairs and prizes. There is a nominal entry fee and space is limited to the first 48 paid up members. These special events are very popular and fill up quickly.

Wednesday Interclub curling is also offered to members to experience curling in other area curling clubs. Members are encouraged to sign up for these Wednesday curling events and the winning teams get lottery ticket prizes.

Senior Men also enjoy Friday morning competitive team curling. There are two draws, one at 9:00 am the other at 11:15 am and the weekly results are posted on the hallway notice board. This year, there are 18 teams in competition.

There is a dedicated website where members can obtain information on all Senior Men's curling activities including: special events, tag colour days, lists of teams for various curling events, schedules, photos and event results. From the Club's home website page, "whitby curling club", click on "leagues" and then "senior men daytime curling" to gain access to all this useful information. The Senior Men are strong supporters of the Club through volunteering for various club events and contributing financially to capital improvements to Club facilities. Profits from the annual golf tournament, daily curling draws and the Gus Brown Invitational Bonspiel provide a solid base for our activities. These funds also support the "The Little Rocks Program" and the "Annual Salvation Army Christmas Hamper Campaign".

This year's Senior Men's Executive Committee are: President, Dave Taylor; Vice President, Gord Chapman; Treasurer, Dave Humphries; Special Events, Doug Sauer; Drawmaster, Paul Barnett; Interclub, Ray Gorecki; Friday Competitive, Paul Slean; Secretary, Peter Conrad; and Past President, Peter Watson.

See you on the ice, have a good time and curl safely.

Submitted by Peter Watson, Senior Men's Curling

2013 Mount Lawn Gord Carroll Classic

Julie Hasting's team is the 2013 Women's Mount Lawn Gord Carroll Classic Champion, having defeated Laura Payne's Ottawa foursome in Sunday's final. This year's field was a strong one. On the women's side, 15 teams played in three pools of five. Lauren Mann's team from Peterborough was the only undefeated team during round-robin play but fell to Ottawa's Payne team in the semi-final. The other semi-finalists were Julie Hollie Nicol from Toronto and Julie Hastings.

We have a new men's champion, Wayne Tuck Jr. of Brantford. The men's 20 team triple knockout draw proved quite competitive. With defending champion and multiple provincial representative, Glen Howard, playing in an Alberta Grand Slam Event, The Canadian Open, the path was open for a new winner. Joe Frans was seeded first and looked very strong in opening games. Jamie Murphy from Halifax, N.S. and Colin Thomas from St. John, NL, the runner-up to Brad Gushue in 2012 added strength to the draw. Several local teams competed with Ray Balachorek of the Oshawa Golf Club, Jim Bell of Unionville and Nathan Martin of Oshawa representing our area extremely well. Bell defeated Martin to qualify as the 5th seed but lost to the eventual winner, Wayne Tuck Jr.

In the A final, Frans drew through a small port to the four foot behind guards. After a Bowser clearing shot, Frans had his final shot, a guard, not curl quite enough and left a very difficult shot for his opponent. Bowser then sent Frans to the B side of the event with a tremendous angle raise take-out through a small port of a rock on the four foot.

Mike Jacubo of Sudbury captured the top seed for the playoffs with a win over Frans, but lost in the quarter-finals to Bowser. Craig Kochan of Toronto had his bid for the top prize end in the final against Tuck's team. In spite of being scheduled at the same time as The Canadian Open Grand Slam, our draw was extremely competitive and provided many exciting games. We look forward to the 2014 Mount Lawn Gord Carroll Classic.

Mount Lawn Gord Carroll Committee



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Fundraising



Hello WCC members,

I am the new Director of Fundraising for the WCC and I want your help! We have a few fundraising events planned for the upcoming year and are looking for volunteers to assist in organizing these exciting activities!

4:30 Friday League

The Friday 4:30 league is full again this year. The committee is working with the new caterers the WCC has engaged and have decided that all three caterers would be given the opportunity to provide meal service over the first three weeks of the league. We are pleased to report that the response has been overwhelmingly positive. Going forward we will continue to schedule the caterers accordingly and remind all members that everyone is welcome and can reserve as per the weekly emails.

The committee wants to thank Ray and Jackie Gorecki for their work on behalf of the committee. Pauline Albert, Jacques LeBlanc, Dave and Mary Parks have joined with the Dixons, Youngs and the McCorkells to round out the committee for 2013 – 2014. Good Curling!



If you are looking for opportunities to become involved in your club, have some fun *and* fulfill your volunteer hours, this is your chance!

We require volunteers for the following events:

1. Olympic Bonspiel – Saturday February 8, 2014
2. Silent Auction – Friday February 28th, 2014
3. Golf Tournament – Summer 2014
4. Proposal for Pull (Nevada) Tickets to be sold at the Club



These committees will be meeting ASAP to begin planning these events.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer for any of the events please contact Ian at iancav@hotmail.com

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Marketing and Advertising

Janice Brooks – Marketing and Advertising Director

Another curling season has begun and with it brings a few noticeable changes around the club when it comes to our fantastic sponsors!

One of the biggest changes you may have noticed are the ads featured in 3 of the houses. These were created as part of the camera and monitor sponsorship program started last year. So far we have 3 of our 6 sheets sponsored and set up with on-ice cameras at each end and monitors in our lounge area to make the viewing of games much easier. Thanks so much to John Wheeler of Remax Jazz, Errol Gee of Wine Kitz, and Ron Fennell of Meadwell, Mowatt and Fennell for their generous support.

You may also notice a couple of new sponsors with posters out in our rink area. Thanks to Stan Senkowski of Rent a Renovator, and Dan Cloutier of Langstaff Reed Printing Limited. You will also see another new sponsor poster very soon from SportsXpress, and thanks go to Amy Knowles for that.

We also have many returning sponsors, so please remember to check them out when you are looking for a product or service. They are featured on our website, in this newsletter, in our membership directory, on our outside electronic sign and through the rink area posters (depending on the sponsorship level chosen).

I am always looking for more sponsors to support our club. Sponsorship funds go directly into our club budget. If you know anyone who has a company that would benefit from exposure to our members, please feel free to pass along their contact information to me. One of our sponsors who tried us out for the first time last year has renewed for another 3 years as he found that our members did use his services and his bottom line increased with our support!

I have also been working to find ways to promote our wonderful club in the community. This year we advertised our learn to curl week in The Oshawa Whitby This Week newspaper as well as purchasing ad space in a local sports magazine called SportsXpress. We just received copies of SportsXpress and they can be found around the club. We are featured with an inset photo on the front cover, an article on the sport of curling, and a full page ad. Check it out and see if you recognize any of the people in the photos included in this magazine. It is distributed throughout Durham region schools, arenas, libraries,



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and sports clubs.

One of my goals for this season is to also get some coverage of events going on in our club. Last year we were able to get SNAP Whitby to cover our Shamrock Bonspiel and we hit the front page for that! I will try to get them in again this year. I am working on some leads at other publications to see what else we can do. The more coverage we get, the more potential curlers we reach. If you have any contacts or ideas, please feel free to contact me.

Enjoy the season and good curling!

Membership

Keeping Our Membership Strong

Every year we lose a number of members for family, work or health reasons. All of us know of someone who is not returning because they got a new job out of town or rolled a golf cart onto themselves. The annual turn-over in membership makes it crucial to attract new members each year. This means introducing existing curlers to our club and introducing new curlers to our sport.

This fall was no exception. But, due to the efforts of many of our existing members, we were able to attract enough new members for the 2013 – 2014 season to maintain the number of adult, curling members at over 380. Add to this the growing number of youth curlers (little rockers and bantams) as well as the novice league, social members and associate members and the total remains at just over 500 persons. Many of the new members signed up after attending our Learn-to-Curl sessions. (Thanks go to Jeff Whalen and his crew of volunteer instructors). Others signed up after attending the Member-Guest night. (Thanks to Ana

Whalen and her infectious enthusiasm). And, still others joined at the urging of their friends who were already members of the club (Thanks to all of you).

To all of the new members: welcome to the club. This is more than just a place to curl. It is a club and it belongs to you as much as to any other member. Make yourself at home, partake in the many activities, and pitch-in where you think you may be needed. You only get as much out of membership as you put into it.

To all of our returning members: welcome back, and try to make the new members feel welcome and comfortable. Let's have another enjoyable season. Good luck and good curling!



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2013 Dominion Club Curling

On October 19th & 20th, Oshawa Curling Club hosted zones for the 2013 Dominion Club Curling Championship. The Whitby Curling Club was represented by Team Elliot (men's) & Team VanHuyse (women's).

The VanHuyse rink of Stephanie VanHuyse, Belinda Solly, Ana Whalen & Mandy Bennett had an excellent showing. An extra end loss in the first game was disappointing but they bounced back to easily win their second game. A third game loss on Sunday morning meant they could not proceed to regions. The women represented us well and boasted the largest cheering section of any team at the event! Well done Ladies!!

Team Elliot, Paul Elliot, Jeff Solly, Paul Adiar, and Doug MacKay went 0-2 despite their best efforts. Although disappointed in their results, the men enjoyed the opportunity to play against other club champion teams from our zone. Thanks Guys! Plans are already underway for the 2014 Dominion Club Championship.

The Road to Halifax:.....The 2014 Dominion Club Curling Championships

The Dominion Curling Club Championship is proud to announce that the Mayflower Curling Club in Halifax, Nova Scotia will host The Dominion Curling Club Championship, running from November 24-29, 2014. Our zone/region qualifiers will be held in early October 2014.



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The Dominion Curling Club Championship is an annual event for men's and women's curling teams who have won their respective local club championships. Winning teams from each club will be "The Dominion Club Champions" and will play down to produce a provincial/territorial champion from all ten provinces and three territories, plus a separate entry for Northern Ontario, who will then compete at the national level.

The event gives grass roots curling teams from every corner of the country an opportunity to compete in provincial/territorial and national level competition. Club curlers are those who enjoy the sport recreationally, supporting club leagues on a regular basis from September to April. These teams now have a venue to demonstrate their skill against other curling clubs in their province/territory and country.

This is the ultimate experience for club curlers. Provincial and Territorial Champions receive

travel, accommodations, many meals, provincial/territorial on-ice jackets and shirts as well as a championship banner to hang proudly in their home club – all courtesy of The Dominion.

How to Qualify

All team members must meet the Dominion and WCC eligibility criteria. For full details, see the link below. Entries should be aware that the expectation is the team members will be available for all qualifier and final game dates.

Women: There will be a WCC Women's Club Championship on April 5, 6 & 8, 2014. The winning team will represent WCC at the Women's Dominion Club Championships. Teams may be entered starting December 20, 2013. The deadline for entries is March 1, 2014. Entry forms and signup sheet will be posted in the women's change room.

Men: The winning team of the Thursday Night Men's Division Curling is declared the Men's WCC Dominion Club Champions.

Eligibility requirements may be found here:

<http://www.curling.ca/thedominioncurls/about/eligibility-information/>

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Welcome back everyone to the 2013-2014 Curling Season

All of the OCA information has been posted on the OCA board which is located at the south end of the club as you go out to enter the ice. I have also posted one in the Ladies Locker room. Please check the calendar for your event. All entries must be submitted prior to or on the Zone Closing Date on the Calendar posted here. There are a couple of important changes to be aware of. All entries must be done on line and paid for at the time of entry. Another change is all players, coaches and chaperones must provide the OCA with a signed waiver form. I have left copies of the forms on the OCA board. This form needs to be completed only once by each person participating in an OCA event for the club.

I have also left an information sheet there with a web link, my e-mail address and instructions for sign up. If anyone would like me to e-mail a copy of the information to them please contact me at lwinters@rogers.com. Please copy any of the information you may need but please remember to return it to the board for others to refer to. Don't forget to copy me at the time of registration so I can confirm the information the OCA requires.

Enjoy the season, Good Curling everyone—Liz Winters, OCA Rep, WCC

November 4, 2013



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WCC Youth Curling Program

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Once again the Whitby Curling Club is a popular place for young, up & coming curlers.....we have 98 kids from ages 8 to 20 registered our program. A number of our experienced Bantams have chosen to be student members and are participating in various leagues in the club. Over half of our Bantam curlers are involved in the Competitive/Development Program on Monday afternoons. This is very exciting for the future of our club and our sport!

From a coach's perspective, it is so rewarding to see the 'million dollar smile' on the face of a young Bantam who is mastering sliding without a rock. To hear a new Little Rocker tell his dad 'I wish I could curl every day' speaks volumes for the quality of our program and the dedication of our volunteers.

November 9th will see us hosting Bantam teams from around the GTA for our annual Ca\$h\$piel. December 14th will be the Little Rockers turn to spotlight the great WCC ice and hospitality in the annual Lloyd Sonley Bonspiel.

We will be hosting the OCA Bantam Zones on January 11 & 12, 2014. If you have never had the opportunity to see young competitive teams play, this is your chance. Whitby will be represented by 2 boys' teams, Stoner & Mitchell and at least 1 girls' team, Lavery, at this point. Can't wait to see how all our teams make out....Good Curling Kids!!

Mixed Curling Update

With the weather turning cold and rainy, the curling season finally started to warm our hearts and our hearths. We started the 1st draw with more members from last season with 10 teams on Wednesday and 21 teams on Friday. Thanks to the good work of our recruitment director, the Learn to Curl Event and many of our members, a number of new curlers have joined our league. Please welcome them with the hospitality our club is known for. If you are a new curler, don't hesitate to ask questions of your team members, your committee members or any of the club staff. As you have noticed, we primarily use email to communicate directly with you. We will also post draw schedules and rosters on the WCC website. We plan to have 3 or 4 theme nights this season, We had Halloween and it was a success ...now we have Christmas theme night in December to look forward to. Watch for the announcement.



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Team Macaulay Update

Team Macaulay, skipped by Erin Macaulay, a graduate of Whitby's youth curling program, participated in the OVCA (Ottawa Valley Curling Association) SuperSpiel this past weekend.

The Superspiel is in its 20th year and welcomes teams from across Canada, USA and Scotland. Most teams attending are invited to the event based on their team success in their respective provinces /countries. Ottawa and Ontario have qualifier spiel to win the spot. Team Macaulay won the Southern Ontario Qualifier to earn their spot.

The weekend was an amazing opportunity and success. The team qualified for the semi-finals with a 5-2 record, but lost to a Manitoba team in the semis. The only teams they lost to were the teams in the finals!

Team Macaulay had the opportunity to play teams from Manitoba, Scotland, Nova Scotia, Quebec and another Ontario team.

The team played great and while they would have loved to win, were pleased with their weekend. We look forward to seeing more of our youth curlers

News from the Bar & Kitchen

Over the past year you will have noticed some major and minor changes.

Over the summer we contacted 3 new caterers to provide dining services for the club. This change should allow bonspiel and league organizers more flexibility in service and pricing for their events. So far each of the 3 caterers has provided meals to various functions and the initial reviews have been very favorable. We also hired 3 new bartenders (Emma, Taryn and Fred) so please say hello and make them feel at home.

You may have also noticed we now have a greater selection of draft beer. Labatt and Mill Street each supplied us with a complimentary keg fridge and we are will be offering their beer in these fridges. This leaves us an additional fridge that we will be featuring Wellington Dark and 5 Paddles (a local craft brewery). We have added Trailhead and Stonewall Light to our bottled beer selection as a value priced alternative.

Casey has worked with several wine representatives and to this end we are offering a promotion on Girls Night Out (Chardonnay and Merlot), purchase either of these products and be entered into a draw for a special prize pack. You may have also noticed we are now offering wine in a 9oz carafe, great to take upstairs to enjoy with your Friday night dinner. Our wine selection is quite varied and provides something for all our members' tastes.

If you have any ideas or comments regarding our Bar or Kitchen please feel to contact me.
 Malcolm Macaulay
 Director Bar and Kitchen



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Updates from Paul Slean

1. Property and Ice Report

We have received a quote on the eaves troughs, and will be looking for others.

The windows have been installed on the front and side of the building with thanks to Peter Green, Steve Smith and Mel Calder for their assistance.

We are investigating the feasibility of putting solar panels on the roof of the club to help with the cost of our hydro.

We will be putting together a presentation for Aviva to see if we can get some money to build an elevator which will provide access to all levels of the club for those who need assistance.

Volunteers may be needed to build a small garden around the base of the sign, and to finish the interior trim around the new windows. See Paul Slean for this.

2. Thursday Night Men's

We are about to get underway with twenty five teams playing in three divisions. At the moment all of the teams are full and there are no spares.

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STAN SENKOWSKI

3. Friday Senior Competitive

We have eighteen teams playing in three divisions. We expect to play four draws of five games. We do need one additional player to complete the roster, and we have two spares available. Playoff dates and prize money has been settled, so let the games begin.



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Bowling Schedule Summer 2014

Monday Afternoon

1 pm ~ 3 pm

Tuesday Evening

6:30 pm ~ 9:30 pm

Wednesday Morning

10 am ~ 12 pm

Thursday Evening

6:30 pm ~ 9:30 pm

Club Tournaments

Provincial Tournaments

New members and Visitors Welcome

Contact: Mae Cathcart 905-665-6944

George Lavigne 905-666-5884

Join us at our Spring meeting

Sunday May 4th at 2 pm



whitbycurlingclub.com

Oktoberfest 2013



A little bit of old world Bavaria was present at the Whitby Curling Club. On October 26, 2013 members and guests gathered for our first annual Oktoberfest celebration. Our lounge was transformed into an authentic Bavarian Beer Hall by an Uber committee of volunteers with honorable mention to the club Loreley and the good folks at Premier brands beer. We had a full compliment of 24 teams vying for the title of Curlmeister in the first spiel of 2013.

There were men in lederhosen, ladies in dirndls, litres of beer for all, plenty of singing, a bit of curling, authentic German cuisine and authentic German schnapps. After the first draw the beer garden started at 11am with an official keg tapping. The first glass of golden Oktoberfest ambrosia was served to none other than the "Shamrock Queen" Denise Mcmillan-Cavanaugh. Thanks in part to the food stylings of Angeles catering we had all the Oktoberfest food groups on hand: Wurst, Schnitzel, Pretzels and Golden Lager.



The curling competition was a hard fought affair and in the end the greatest trophy in sports was raised by

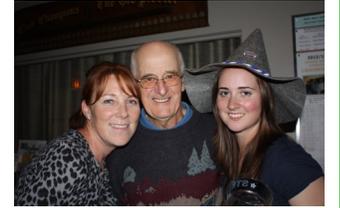


Rob Lobel, Deb McFadden, Steve Lobel and Melanie Heaney. A special thanks goes out to Jo Ann Jordan and Dave "the ham-

mer" Simmons for their inspiration and ability in making the greatest trophy in sports for our event.

Each participant in the competition was given a 1 litre beer glass. Although no one was required to fill it to the top in

typical WCC fashion many of the competitors did...and saw the bottom of their glass more than once. This made for some interesting curling and was an excellent prelude to lacing up the dancing shoes. A big thanks to Maestro Fresh Bemister for his fly beats...his skills kept the dance floor rocking long into the night. And of course the day would not have been the same without the hardest working people there the WCC bartenders...



Finally I would be quite remiss if I did not give a big Danke Schon to a truly great group of people Tom and Roz, Glenn and Frannie and my lovely wife Ana for being a part of a truly wunderbar committee. The event completely exceeded my expectations... Wir hatten eine tolle Zeit...Can't wait for next year...hope to see you there.



*Groan worthy curling pun:
Said one curling rock to another: Hi there gorgeous! Your house or mine?
I won't take you for granite!*

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